MONTEREY NEWS

November 2013
VOLUME XLIII · Number 11

The Town

by Susan Gallant

Pole Project

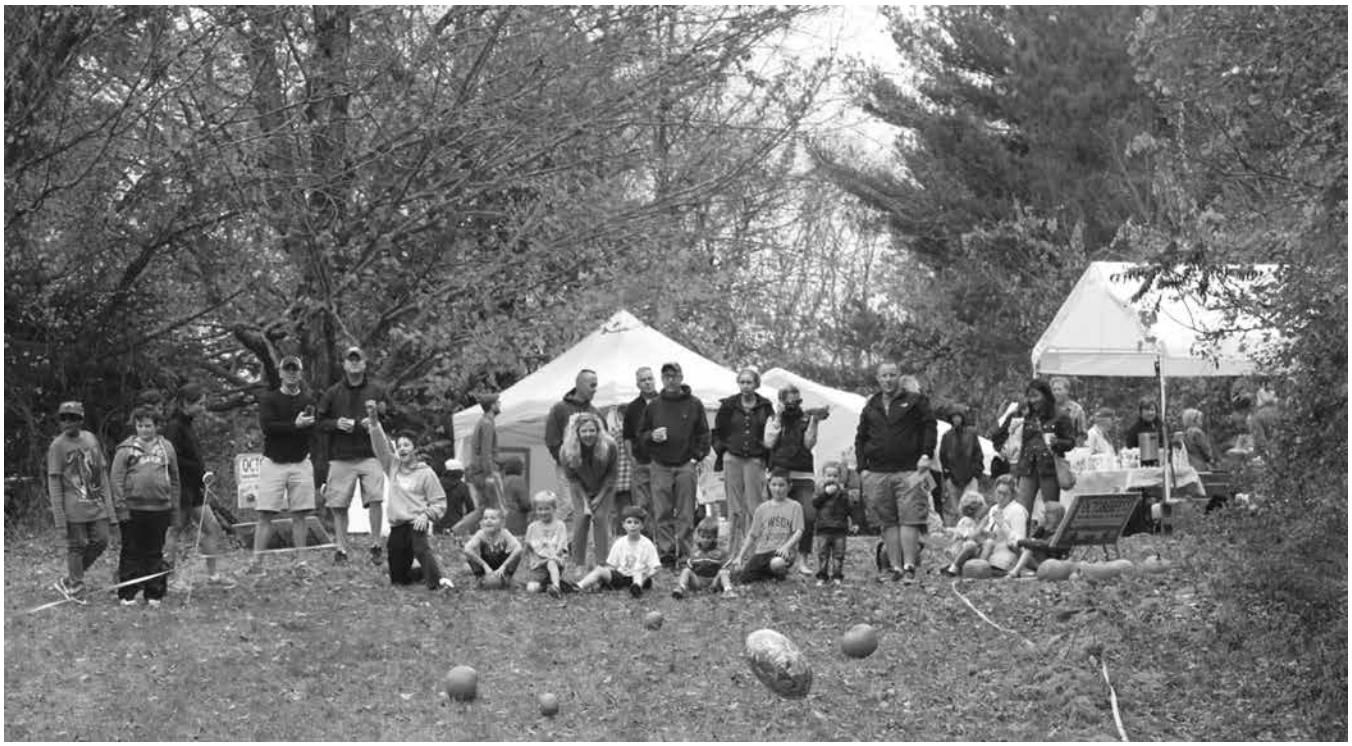
At 9:00 a.m. on September 30, the Select Board opened the joint pole hearing involving National Grid and Verizon. Anthony Corsi, of National Grid, explained that the plan was an attempt to upgrade the pole lines and make them more secure in an attempt to lessen the number of power outages in Monterey. Maynard Forbes provided a detailed list of about thirty double poles that need to be removed, saying that these double poles must be gone before the nine new poles are installed. According to the National Grid representative, the project will be conducted over the next two to three months. The board approved the joint pole petition, provided that the double poles would first be removed.

Highway Department News

Maynard Forbes, director of operations for the highway department, provided the Select Board with a cost analysis, including the additional equipment that would have to be purchased, to justify adding a fourth employee to the department. Currently, Monterey spends $46,475 for independent contractors to maintain the town's grassy areas. If a fourth person were added, that person would be responsible for mowing, among other things. Maynard estimates that the annual cost to the town would be roughly $21,677. Furthermore, Maynard believes the town would benefit from having another person available to operate the snowplow. Maynard also reminded the board that additional funds and staff will eventually be needed at the Wilson McLaughlin House once the community center is up and running.

In response to Maynard's request for additional personnel, Dick Tryon stopped by the October 28 Select Board meeting to echo a concern Wayne Burkhart had voiced some weeks ago: that adding a fourth employee to the highway department's ranks would be taking work away from Monterey residents who depend on the income they earn from plowing roads and mowing grass for the town.

In an unrelated issue, Maynard told



Pat Arnow

One of many pumpkin-rolling contests at Monterey Community Center's Octoberfest, October 12. An article and more stories appear on pp. 6–7.

the board about a grant that is available through the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association for a traffic-safety trailer, equipped with A-frame barricades, safety barrels, and traffic cones, that can be towed to accidents and other roadside emergencies. Maynard explained that, if awarded, the grant would cover the entire cost of the trailer, which is $5,000. The Select Board unanimously agreed to sign the paperwork to move the application process forward.

If the Creek Don't Rise

In anticipation of the Lake Garfield drawdown, Chris Blair of the Conservation Commission came in to discuss the impact of that process on other waterways. Chris reported that two members of the Lake Buel Prudential Committee attended the last Conservation Committee meeting to request improved communication with Maynard Forbes, especially during the drawdown, and to ask that extreme weather conditions be taken into consideration when opening and closing the dam, since heavy precipitation, combined with the rapid outflow of water from Lake Garfield, could increase the chances that Lake Buel could flood its shores.

Chris went on to say that the Order of Conditions for the start of the drawdown is flexible, so if there is a lengthy period of dry weather early in October, the drawdown could begin early in the month to take advantage of the good weather. Likewise, if there is a prolonged period of inclement weather in October, then the drawdown can be postponed. To allow for such flexibility would require boat owners on Lake Garfield to take their boats out of the water no later than October 1.

The board said it would follow up with Maynard Forbes, but also added that many other factors contribute to the flooding of Lake Buel that are far more complex and difficult to resolve than the effect of the drawdown. And later in the month, the board brought this matter to Maynard's attention, who responded by saying that he is carefully monitoring the water levels at Lake Buel by photographing the lake each time the dam is opened. So far, the effects to water levels at Buel have been minimal.

Surprise Visit from the Super

David Hastings, the recently appointed superintendent of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District, unexpectedly dropped in on the October 7 Select Board meeting, explaining that he was visiting all the towns in the district to discuss their specific priorities and goals. Although Mr. Hastings said he was confident that the district would be able to support a Monterey community school, he did inform the board that there has been confusion about where the funding for building a new school would come from as well as opposition to the possibility that the money would be coming from the district. The board assured the superintendent that funding for the school would be coming from within the town but also pointed out that the School Committee should take into account that the district provided no financial support for the upkeep and maintenance of the current building.

As for the high school, Mr. Hastings spoke of the large number of students involved in marching band and stage productions. Scott Jenssen pointed out the need to revitalize the trade, vocational, and agricultural programs in the school, which have all but disappeared in the recent past. Ramping up these programs would provide students with the necessary skills to earn an income right out of high school.

Doggie Playground Stands Alone

The Park Commission held a meeting to discuss with town residents the plans that have been floating around for the town property behind the firehouse pavilion, currently being called the Greene Park Extension. Ideas suggested for the land include tennis courts, a children's playground, a picnic area, cross-country ski trails, Jamie's Court basketball court, and of course a fenced-in area for dogs.

DR. JERROLD RAAB
Dentist

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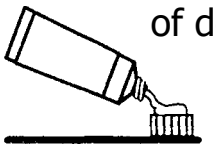
of dentistry



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Route 23 Monterey

The *Monterey News* is published monthly by The Monterey News Inc, PO Box 9, Monterey, MA 01245-0009.

MONTEREY MAKERS STUDIO TOUR
December 7, 10AM- 4PM
There will be a kick off the studio tour at the opening of the IN THE DETAILS show at the Knox gallery Friday - DECEMBER 6th from 6-7:30
MontereyMaCC.org

Pat Arnow

At Rawson Brook Farm's 30th Anniversary Celebration, October 13.

About fifteen residents, including those eager to see the creation of Jamie's Court, attended the meeting, according to Select Board Chair Muriel Lazzarini, who was there as well. Jamie's Court, in memory of Jamie Bogdanoff, has been a long time coming, and those who knew Jamie and have been anticipating the construction of the basketball court want it to be built, hopefully this coming spring, at the location they had originally agreed on—just beyond the town hall parking lot. Apparently, the surface of the court is moveable, so if, at some point, it needs to be relocated, it can be. Those at the meeting wanted the children's playground, currently located behind the town hall, to stay put as well. The amphitheater, ski trails, tennis courts, and picnic area generated little support, leaving only the fenced-in dog spot, which most people were in favor of. One abutter who attended the meeting requested that some type of structure be created to distinguish public space from private property, to prevent people from wandering onto private land. And another abutter mentioned that he has a shooting range on his property that might startle some of the dogs as well as their owners.

Those who were unable to attend the October meeting but who want to weigh in on the matter can do so by completing the Greene Park Extension survey online, found at montereyma.gov, under the heading "News & Announcements." Hard copies of the survey are also available at town hall and the transfer station. The deadline for survey submissions is November 15.

Police Report

Gareth Backhaus, Monterey's chief of police, joined the October 28 Select Board meeting to report on recent police activity:

>

- Domestic assault complaint on Main Rd.
- Disabled motor vehicles on Art School Rd. and Main Rd.
- Assault on Deerwood Circle that is pending further investigation
- False (smoke) alarm on Mtn. Laurel Way
- Suspicious activity reported after midnight on Point Rd.
- Accompanied Peter Kolodziej of Board of Health to a residence on Mt. Hunger Rd.
- False alarms on North Cove and Mt Hunger Rds. and at Town Hall
- Lockout on Gould Rd.
- Missing dog on Swann Rd. that returned before the officer's arrival
- Medical calls on Mt. Hunger Rd. and at Gould Farm
- During the recent rain storm, police responded to calls about downed trees on Sandisfield, New Marlboro, and Mt. Hunger Rds., and directed traffic around the removal of a tree that fell on wires on Tyringham Rd.
- Assisted Becket and state police in Otis involving a fight during which a gun was fired
- Loose horse in Brett Rd. area that was returned to its owner
- Assisted state police on Hatchery Rd., New Marlborough, on a domestic assault complaint
- Aiding state and local police in looking for missing person
- Outside burn reported on Dowd Rd.

Apparently Select Board members have been getting a lot of comments and requests about keeping the police cruiser parked at the front of the town hall parking lot to boost its visibility, which has proved effective in discouraging drivers from speeding through the center of town. Gareth, in response, explained that his department attempts to keep the cruiser visible whenever possible; however, when responding to calls, it's more efficient to park the cruiser closer to the exit of the building. This is especially true when snow is on the ground.

Special Town Meeting

A Special Town Meeting has been scheduled for December 6, at 7 p.m., at the firehouse. The agenda, as it stands now, is to approve a necessary easement for the paving of route 23, to adopt a moratorium so that Monterey has adequate time to develop its own regulations and bylaws for medical marijuana dispensary sites in town (this, at the suggestion of the Planning Board), to approve a solar-power zoning bylaw proposed by the Planning Board (see p. 5), to approve property tax exemptions for firefighters, and possibly to authorize a grant-funded feasibility study for the library.

Giving a Hero His Due

On Monday, November 18, the Town of Monterey will honor Michael Ordyna for his act of heroism when he came to the rescue of Katherine Stevens after she was knocked unconscious and fell into Lake Buel. The ceremony will take place at town hall at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Goodbye from a Grateful Town

The Monterey Select Board, on behalf of the entire Monterey community, would like to offer its heartfelt condolences to the Amidon family on the passing of Dean Amidon. The length and breadth of his contributions to our beloved town were extraordinary. They touched every single person at some point in time and enhanced the quality of all of our lives. For this our town has been blessed. ॐ

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❊

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Planning Board Update

Due to the recent resignation of a Planning Board member there is a vacancy on the board. We are a seven-member board now with six members and it is imperative that we bring another member on board. Current Planning Board members travel, to one degree or another, so please don't think you can't do it if you travel or need to leave town. The Planning Board meets on the second and fourth Thursday of every month (except November, when the fourth Thursday is Thanksgiving). Meetings are productive and interesting, with board members of various backgrounds, careers, and life experience contributing. If you have a passion for Monterey and want to be a part of creating a bright future for our town, then please consider joining the Planning Board. Feel free to join us for a Planning Board meeting—the next one is November 14—or submit a letter of interest to the board. Drop it off at the Town Hall or send it in the post.

The Planning Board has been working on a solar-power zoning bylaw for the past few months. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts recently created laws that encourage solar installations of all sizes. The board thought it wise to make sure that any proposed solar installations are in keeping with the character of Monterey while reducing the possibility of impacting property values for abutters. Our goal is to encourage and enable solar-power installations while maintaining the rural character and natural beauty of Monterey. It's difficult to know the likelihood of such a proposal, but if it comes we want to be ready.

Another front-burner issue is the recently approved medical marijuana referendum that allows medical marijuana clinics in Massachusetts. Initially I did not think this would be a big issue for Monterey. However after learning that medical marijuana dispensaries must cultivate their own product, coupled with the fact that we are a "Right to Farm" town, we decided to move it up on our agenda. The Planning Board is proposing a one-year moratorium on medical marijuana clinics to give us time to study the issue and create regulations.

To that end we are looking forward to a Special Town Meeting on December 6, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Monterey Firehouse, where we will be proposing a solar-power zoning bylaw and a one-year moratorium on medical marijuana clinics. We look forward to seeing you at the Special Town Meeting, where we can explore and debate these issues.

—Maggie Leonard, Co-Chair
Monterey Planning Board

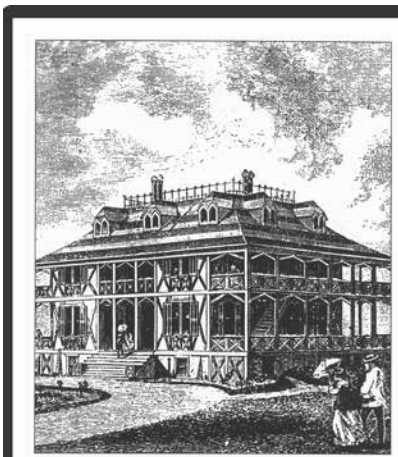
Holocaust Documentary Film at Community Potluck Nov. 20

At the October Potluck, Esther Heffernan and Beth Timlege did a wonderful job talking about "Why Horses?", a presentation on the use of horses in therapy of various kinds, physical, mental, emotional. It was new information for a lot of us, and much appreciated.

For the November Potluck, Larry Silk, award-winning editor of multiple documentaries, will show his Oscar-winning movie about the Holocaust, *One Survivor Remembers*. It was made by HBO in 1996 about Gerda Klein, who survived the Holocaust as a slave laborer. The film, which Larry edited, presents a remarkable personal history, and it won an Oscar for Best Documentary Short for in 1996.

The next Monterey Community Potluck Dinner will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the Monterey Meetinghouse at 6 p.m. on November 20. Please bring a dish to share with a serving utensil, and a place setting and silverware for yourself. Everyone is welcome.

—Barbara Dahlman & Kyle Pierce



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Octoberfest 2013: Lots of veggies got painted . . . lots of food and drink, including bratwurst served up by Monterey firemen Shawn Tryon, Billy Bowman, and Del Martin . . . (All photos on these two pages are by Pat Arnow.)

Octoberfest at Monterey Community Center

A beautiful fall day set the stage for Monterey Community Center's first Octoberfest on October 12.

As Del Martin and Billy Bowman started cranking up the wood fire, and before the bratwurst hit the grill, folks started arriving—neighbors, friends, moms, dads, kids, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Hundreds of people gathered on the grounds of the future Monterey Community Center to savor bratwurst, beer, hot dogs, pretzels, apple cider, and desserts.

At the welcome tent greeting guests and selling tickets for food and games were Gige O'Connell, Shirley Olds, Cynthia Weber, Carol Heimann, Joyce Sheffey, Jean Germain, Carol Ingher, and Elizabeth Germain. Right off, Bonner McAllester guided an invigorating nature walk around the grounds of the Community Center. The homegrown music from Karl Finger, Eric Martin, Oren Rosenthal, Stephen Enoch, and Peter Poirier had toes tapping and hands clapping all afternoon.

There were lots of activities starting with rubber duck races down the Konkopot River led by chief duck wrangler Evelyn Vallianos with help from Justin Makuc.

Back up at the Community Center, who knew that rolling pumpkins down a hill could be so much fun? As Anne Shatas will attest, the pumpkin-roll contest went on all afternoon, with contestants vying for prizes for the longest, shortest, and most off-course rolls. And just over the rise, dozens of kids took pony rides around the field.

While grownups chatted, and took tours of the under-construction Wilson McLaughlin house lead by Robert Kuhner, the children were having a blast decorating veggies under the artistic direction of Christine Martin, transforming zucchinis and gourds into strange animals. In the next tent there was face painting by Ginny Allentuck (who also made some awesome pumpkin cookies!).

Participation came from all around our community; the gathering included The Bidwell House, Gould Farm, and vendors Elizabeth Maschmeyer and Gail Heath.

What Will You Do at the Community Center?

Many folks wrote on the 'Graffiti' board about what activities they would like. Just a few of the top suggestions are: Classes in art, gardening, dance, photography; Knitting and quilting groups

Thai Yoga Bodywork

Local References *Sliding Scale*

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and lots of good music by local favorites (<) Eric Martin, Oren Rosenthal, Steve Enoch; Karl Finger(^); Peter Poirier(>).

and lessons; Yoga and tai chi; Seniors' lunches; After-school programs; Chess club, dominos, scrabble, bridge, Mah Jong; Meetings, social gatherings, concerts; Movie nights.

As a result of this event, many more folks in Monterey realize the infinite possibilities for our Community Center. Much work has been done toward the goal of completing the renovation of the Wilson McLaughlin house, which was built c. 1820, to create the Monterey Community Center. The house and 28.6 acres of land were bequeathed to the town, yet any money to renovate as well as maintain the house and grounds must come from a combination of private donations, grants, and support from the town.

When the next phase is completed we will have a community center where recreational, educational, and cultural programs will be open to all.

It takes an energetic team to pull off an event this size in just two months. The Octoberfest committee was made up of Cara Carroll, Michael and Maureen Banner, Mary Makuc, Wendy Germain, and Karen Anderson, with lots of help from Friends of Wilson McLaughlin House Board of Directors Joe Baker, Laurie Shaw, Evelyn Vallianos, and Cynthia Weber.

We are already anticipating a fantastic Octoberfest 2014. With your continued help and support, Monterey can have a vibrant Community Center. Visit the website for more information and to donate online at www.ccmonterey.org.

THANKS TO (in addition to those mentioned above): Monterey Fire Department, Monterey Police Department, Andrus Power Solutions;

Volunteers: Josh Allentuck, Candy Coddington, Kit Patten, Bill Carlson, Bob Carlson, Felix Carroll, Christine Goldfinger, Franny Huberman, Masho McAlister, Claudia Martin, Linda Mulvey, Susan Gallant.

Donations from: The Monterey General Store, The Gifted Child, Tom's Toys, Matrushka, Ellen Grenadier Pottery, Jean Germain Photography, Berkshire Co-op, Big Y, The Bookloft , Catherine's Chocolates, Prairie Whale, Roadside Café, EnlightenNext, Guido's, Maria's European Delights.

—Wendy Germain

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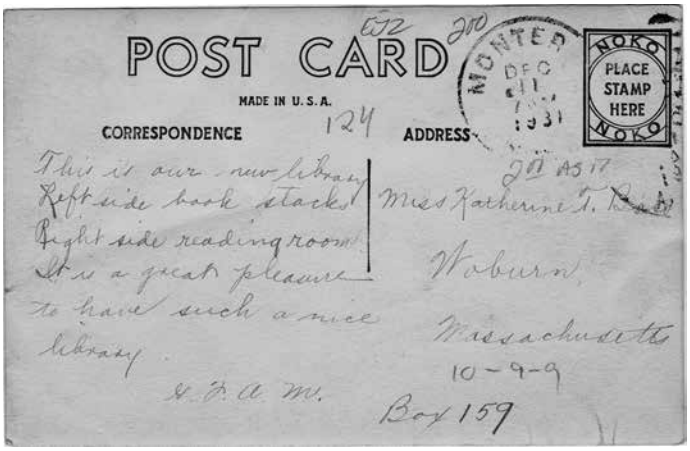

A postcard dated 1931 recently acquired by the Monterey Library. The note reads: "This is our new library. Left side bookstacks. Right side reading room. It is a great pleasure to have such a nice library."

Monterey Library Notes
Help Us Plan for the Future

The Monterey Library was built in 1931 from local materials by local tradesmen and has served this town very well. Additions were put on the building in 1976 and 1998 that serve as the Knox Gallery/community room and office space. Before 1931, Monterey had a small library located where the current post office is. It needed to be chained to a tree so that it would not float away in the spring floods. Monterey applied to the Carnegie Foundation for a Carnegie Library grant but the town was deemed too small to receive that planning and funding. In 1925 the Monterey Dramatic Society gave the land where they had hoped to build a theater to the town specifically for a library for the sum of one dollar. Monterey accepted this gift at town meeting, with the restriction that the land cannot be used for anything else or it will revert back the Monterey Dramatic Society. Though we have no record of the planning process that went into our current library building, we can be fairly certain there was no discussion about lending movies and audiobooks, and certainly nothing was mentioned about fiber optics or that the Monterey Library would be a portal for the town for exchanging information with the rest of the world.

Now we have a building that was very well built in 1931, but building codes have changed, and, more importantly, how the town uses the library and what people expect of their town library has changed. Those townspeople who planned this building almost ninety years ago did a great job. Somehow we have been able to wire up computers, install routers, carve out some space for the children and DVDs, and create an art gallery! We have adapted the building to suit the needs.

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners has announced a grant program that will provide funding for library planning and design. The state will help libraries plan and design for the next 30-year period. The Monterey Library hopes to take advantage of this program. One of the first steps of this process is to form a library-needs committee. At some point this planning process could be easily taken over by an architect who might design a very handsome building or come up with a plan to use existing space that may look fine. What Monterey needs is a library that serves the needs of the community. This building is your library. We have had forums and surveys to determine what you would like to see offered as services. Now we are forming a library-needs committee to address those needs and research how the current building is fulfilling those needs and how the library can better serve the town that has supported it for so many years.

So if you would like to get involved, here is your chance! The more diverse the committee, the better we can serve the whole town. While building experience could be useful, it is important to get points of view from people with no experience at all. You don't even have to be a patron of the library to be welcome—we are interested in how to encourage those of you who don't use the library to want to use it. Today some of our patrons never set foot in this building but do their library business over the Internet. We have heard from the people who come in, but we really need to hear from those of you who don't as well. Please consider spending some time at a few meetings with people who would like to keep the tradition and services of the Monterey Library alive and thriving in this new age of digitization. Either send an email to montereylibrary@gmail.com or call 413-528-3795 indicating your interest. We hope to hear from you soon!

—Mark Makuc, Library Director

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Drawings by George Emmons at Knox Gallery in November

The Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, showcases the drawings of Monterey resident George Emmons this month. The exhibit opens on November 8, with a gallery talk by the artist on Saturday, November 9 at 7 p.m. An opening reception follows the talk (7:30–8:30 p.m.).

Prior to retiring from textile sales in 1995, Emmons embarked on a second career—as a creative nonfiction writer and illustrator with the Acorn Press in nearby Ridgefield, Connecticut, which published six local weekly newspapers. After moving to Monterey, he discovered the *Monterey News* was a welcoming outlet for featuring his continuing work. *George Emmons: In Print at the Monterey News* will feature original drawings that have illustrated his popular monthly column on nature themes and local lore for the paper.

Emmons is an active member of the Monterey community. He serves as Trustee of The Bidwell House Museum and President of the Berkshire Hatchery Foundation, and credits these involvements with providing insight into the town's history, its wildlife, and "the wonderful people that make the place." He is a former resident of New York City, and South Salem, NY.

Emmons feels "extremely fortunate" for the opportunity to pursue his lifelong interests in writing and image making near his favorite "Golden Pond"—"the most rewarding of all," he reports. He expresses gratitude "to *Monterey News* Editor Will Marsh, the publishers, and creative fellow writers and artists, for the inspiration set by their example."

Emmons's artwork has been featured in New York City department stores. He illustrated *Cherokee* Tears, a historical novel by his sister, Dr. Ann Petri, about the Cherokee Trail of Tears.

George Emmons: In Print at the Monterey News will be on exhibit from November 8 through December 2. All exhibits can be viewed during library hours.

We look forward to many exciting and interesting submissions for the Knox Gallery winter community show, *In the Details*. Monterey artists and friends are invited to submit one or two pieces of work that are smaller than 50 square inches in surface area (not including the frame) and not more than 7 inches deep. *In the Details* will open on December 6, the evening before the Monterey Makers Studio Tour (see p. X), and will continue until early February.

"Intent to Enter" forms for *In the Details* are now available at the library and on the Town website (www.montereyma.gov under "Monterey Library"). Forms should be mailed or emailed to the addresses provided on the form by November 23.

—MaryPaul Yates

Veterans Day Ceremony November 11

Come at 10:45 a.m., On November 11 to the Veterans Day Ceremony.

Veterans and friends are invited to the Monterey Church on 11/11, when the church bell will be rung 11 times at 11 o'clock, followed by a short ceremony.

Come and pay tribute to all our veterans of all the wars.

Greene Park Extension Update

An open meeting was held at Town Hall on Wednesday October 16. There was much discussion about the pros and cons of the Greene Park Extension project.

Please complete a survey about your ideas for the extension so your voice can be heard. The more information collected the better we can meet the needs of our town.

Surveys can be found at the Monterey General Store and Town Hall.

They can also be filled out online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/JS78Y6M.

All surveys must be submitted by November 15.

Thank you for your cooperation.

—Gail Leavy

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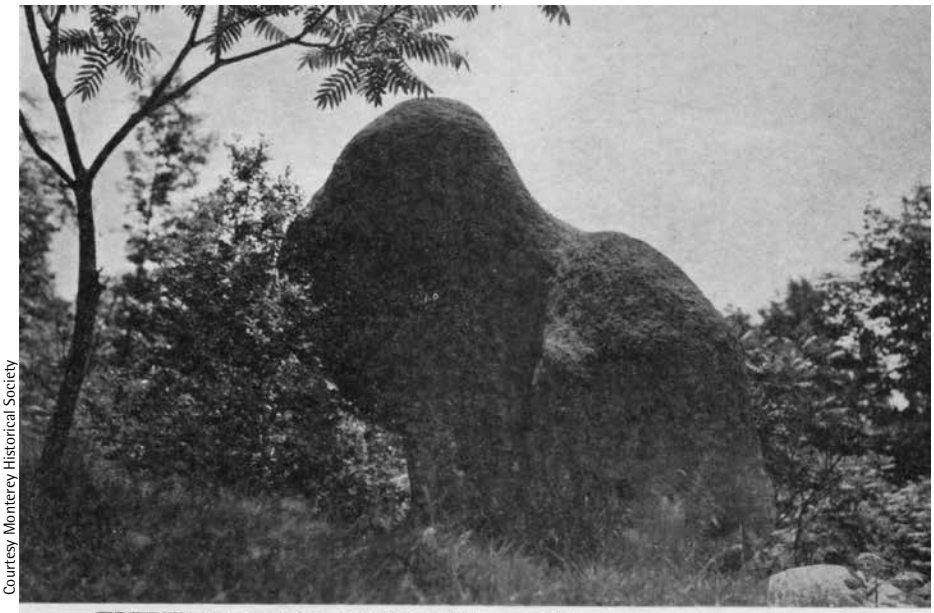
Monterey Walks from Julius Miner's Recollections (1940)

Part 13: Hupi Road

Prepared by Barbara Swann for the Monterey Historical Society



Courtesy Monterey Historical Society

ELEPHANT ROCK, MONTEREY, MASS.

Let us go out West Otis Road past Lake Garfield to the first road to the left. This is Hupi Road and the junction is known as Hupi Corner. At the left is a gravel pit, the gravel having presumably been deposited by a glacier.

A family once lived here and had their barn just in front of what is now the gravel pit. The owner selected his own burial plot, just in back of the barn. In due time he was buried there. As years rolled on, families moved away, the house and barn fell down and the former owner was almost forgotten, his land being converted into a gravel pit, One day, busy town employees were horrified to uncover a skeleton. Upon identification the man had a second burial, this time in the public cemetery.

Look for bloodroot by the roadside as you continue past the gravel-pit. Presently we come to a fence between an open field and woodland. Follow this fence until you see a little brook and another fence along its bank. Now follow this fence and look for a mound like an enormous woodchuck burrow. On the brook side of it is a small entrance to an old cache. Notice how cleverly it was arched over with stones. Some say that it was used for storing vegetables. Others say that the cache was for hiding valuables from the Indians.

Going back to the Hupi Road, we come to another little brook. Let us follow this to the boiling spring which supplies it, or we may go by the private road at the top of the hill near the old barn. After crossing the brook at the foot of the hill we may pass through the barway on the left and see excellent specimens of high-bush and low-bush huckleberries and everlasting flowers. The old cellar-pit at the top of the hill is known as Hupi' s.

As we pass, note the white birches on each side of the road. Farther along is a magnificent display of mountain laurel. Descending the hill, watch for the old osprey. On the left is the oddly shaped stone known as Elephant Rock. Ahead, note the double wall on our left. Was it built for a lane or as a "devil's fence" because of some dispute as to boundaries?

Note the old house back of the wall. The owner paid a half bushel of silver for the property. A descendant is credited with having brought about the adoption of Eastern Standard and Western Standard Time. On this land was a large concave stone used by Indians in grinding their corn.In some localities, similar stones are called samp mortar rocks.

Back of the house, on the shore of Lake Garfield, where the sun shone warmly in the spring, men would stand in the lake as they washed sheep before shearing them. After the shearing there was much forlorn bleating as the ewes and the little lambs tried to find each other. It was especially hard for the little ones to find their mothers, for a ewe is a queer looking creature when newly sheared.

Formerly, on the hillside near Elephant Rock were meadows and pastures. One dry October, a fire started near the Rock and rapidly spread up the mountainside and over the Cobble. Leaves kept falling from the trees and, drying, were soon ignited by the smoldering embers. On the Cobble was a heavy growth of spruce trees. One evening, the fire reached these trees and the whole top of the Cobble seemed to go up in flame. The glow illuminated all of Monterey, Tyringham and Otis. It gave one eerie feelings to see at midnight all about as clearly as at noon. The fire raged for fourteen days, and even thirty days after the fire people found charcoal burning in an old charcoal pit on the Cobble.

Farther along, on a knoll in a meadow on the upper side of Hupi Road is a small cellar hole. Here lived a girl who foolishly

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watched an eclipse of the sun without using smoked glass or taking other precautions. Her eyes were seriously and permanently affected.

Now, we come to a brook. Oldtimers tell of spearing suckers when they ascended the stream in the spring, as do salmon. They overdid the sport for few are now to be seen, having disappeared like the passenger pigeon, the heath hen and now the partridges. Here was a very fertile meadow. It is said that when the first mowing machine was used here, the mowers were bewildered. The grass was so high and so thick that, when cut, it remained standing erect.

At the next place, hair combs were made from the horns and hooves of cattle. At one time, the fish in Lake Garfield were affected by some disease. Great numbers were washed ashore near Camp Fernway and they were hauled away for use as fertilizers. Many lamented that there would be no more fishing for many years. However, to general surprise, the next season was the best one in Monterey memory.

We are now one mile from the village. Turn left at the next corner on the Tyringham Road for the center.

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Volunteers Needed to Help Set Up Ice Rink Nov. 30

The Monterey ice-skating rink at the pavilion behind the fire station will be assembled the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 30, at 9:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed for about one hour to attach the boards to the pavilion posts. No special skills are needed.

The rink is enjoyed by hundreds of hockey and figure skaters January–March when the temperatures are consistently below freezing. Please bring your positive energy and a power drill if possible. Helpers of all ages will make the job go fast and easy. Free refreshments will be served.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Needed: Someone to do physical work such as snow shoveling and carrying cordwood for pay by the hour; call David 528-0228.

The *Monterey News* will run this column, which we hope will help people make beneficial connections, when there is a need. Do you have a need that someone else might help you with? Do you have a service to offer that you think would be of assistance to someone else? If so, please send them to the editor, montereynews9@gmail.com, and it will be printed in the next month's edition.

Winding River*, pastel by Joe Baker*

Joe Baker Paintings on Exhibit in Sandisfield

Joe Baker's exhibit of recent paintings, *Chasing Light*, continues at the Sandisfield Arts Center, 5 Hammertown Road, Sandisfield, through December 14. The works include oils, pastels, and watercolors. The gallery is open when events are taking place at the center, and in addition Joe will have the gallery open on the following dates, from 2–4 p.m. each day: Saturday, November 9; Friday, November 22; Saturday, November 30; Saturday, December 14. You may also call Joe to schedule an appointment at 413-528-9385.

For directions and the Sandisfield Arts Center schedule, see their website, www.sandisfieldartscenter.org; for more information about the paintings see www.bakerworks.com/art.

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Best in Show

We conduct worldwide beauty contests and sporting events (Olympics), offer prestigious Nobel Prizes, and stage international film festivals, all of these open to aspirants from around the globe. So what's missing? Why hasn't anyone thought to honor the best of the world's national leaders? Are not the lives of over seven billion people greatly affected by the capacities and intentions of those who govern them? Would not such a competition, and the recognition attached to those selected, provide incentives for leaders to improve their performances as well as the lives of their people?

Just as the Academy Awards recently expanded to ten the number of films eligible for Best Movie of the Year, we might consider nominating an equal number who would then gather together as finalists at yearly ceremonies (perhaps before a special session of the United Nations and televised around the globe). Just imagine the tension in the hall as the cameras zoom in on the hopefuls (each of whose achievements would be summarized in a brief documentary film) as they await the announcement of the winner or winners (perhaps awarded with gold, silver, and bronze globes).

How are these individuals to be judged? No simple matter for sure. What should we expect from them? Their performances need to be scrutinized in those areas, over which leaders have a measure of influence, viz effectively communicating to their people, maintaining domestic tranquility, elevating living standards, tolerating an often vitriolic opposition, reducing corruption, presenting a positive vision of the future, and innovating while maintaining valued traditions. In foreign affairs candidates would have to show respect for the sovereignty of other nations, cooperate on matters of mutual interest, maintain world stability, and aid nations in crises or those requiring sustained assistance.

We are setting a high bar, but remember, it's all relative and we will take into consideration measureable progress toward these desirable goals. And we will probably choose to assign varying weight to individual factors. How, for example, should we measure a country cracking down on regional opponents, but at the same time raising living standards? What about a national leader who has seen to advancement of women, but who has restricted press freedoms?

A further complication: Who will do the judging? A worldwide referendum would doubtless be unreliable as peoples in the most populated nations might dominate the voting. More likely we'd rely upon "experts" who would evaluate relevant data (e.g., levels of unemployment, poverty, corruption, citizen satisfaction, economic progress, opposition freedoms, etc.) and combine it with their own worldly knowledge and experiences. But wouldn't these experts be inclined to favor their own countries—a bias probably impossible to eliminate? Still we would attempt to recruit an "internationalist" panel who have already shed a reflexive devotion to their mother countries and who have long labored for organizations with worldwide perspectives. We should probably select folks from institutions such as the United Nations, the World Bank, International Red Cross, as well as overseas news correspondents, multinational corporations, the European Community, the African Union, etc.

An award process and ceremony such as I have proposed cannot be accomplished overnight. Still, knowing that such a competition is underway might have a salutary effect on the policies and actions of leaders around the world.

For a test run, I conducted an impromptu survey of certain current leaders to preview how this sorting process might work. The results of this partial unscientific "world tour" were not, however, encouraging. Italy, with Berlusconi nearly out of the picture, and with its long history of governmental instability, did not merit a second look. Vladimir Putin doubtlessly controls the fortunes and future of Russia, but, leaning upon traditionalists and tolerating little dissent, he offers no bold blueprint for his nation's advancement. Nouri al-Maliki in Iraq is not as yet completely out of the running, but the daily sectarian violence across the nation and his highhanded actions have dashed hopes that a postwar Iraq will be made stable and secure. David Cameron of Great Britain has staked his leadership on the hope that austerity policies will lift his nation out of its economic funk. Thus far, it has not worked—and then there is the vote on Scottish independence looming in 2014.

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South African leader Jacob Zuma has as yet been unable to overcome the forces of corruption and the high incidence of crime, satisfy demands for land reforms, or address demoralizing inequality. President François Hollande of France has disappointed many of his own followers and significantly underperformed in public opinion polls while facing the severe challenges of high unemployment and substantial budget deficits. Obviously disqualified are such pariahs as Bashar Assad in Syria, and Kim Jong-un of North Korea.

We would not slight, though not necessarily embrace, such wily and resourceful leaders as Hamid Karzai in Afghanistan, King Abdullah in Jordan and Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel. And we had best wait to see how recently elevated heads of state, such as President Enrique Nieto of Mexico, Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan, China's Xi Jinping, and Hassan Rouhani of Iran perform. Also, we should not overlook Scandinavia since most everyone concedes they do things right there. Sweden is usually singled out; still its Prime Minister Frederik Reinfeldt suddenly faces an uncharacteristic upsurge in anti-immigrant sentiment that has severely roiled an otherwise benign national landscape.

So, are there any serious contenders for the top spots? President Barack Obama, despite disappointment and an embittered opposition, must be considered. And surely Angela Merkel, the unquestioned leader of Germany, indeed of Western Europe, deserves serious attention.

But can we fill all ten slots as originally proposed? Was this too ambitious a project? Must we reduce expectations or consider inflating the grading system? And if so, what would that say about the current crop of leaders—and the state of the world?

—Richard Skolnik

Richard blogs at www.catchmydrift.net.

Get Ready for the Monterey Makers Studio Tour Dec. 7

There will be a kick off the Tour at the opening of the *In The Details* art show at the Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, on Friday, December 6, from 6–7:30 p.m.

On December 7, 10 a.m.to 4 p.m., scout out the brilliant artists and artisan's studios scattered through the glorious Monterey hills for the 5th annual Tour.

The spiffed-up studios will have works to show and sell—up close and personal.

As of press time these splendid studios, artists, and artisans are in:

- Ellen Grenadier—beautiful functional pottery
- Julie Neu—creative quilter
- Fiona De Ris/Roadside Café—delicious edibles
- Joe Baker—the popular artist with beautiful paintings and pastels
- Julie Shapiro—striking, important abstract paintings and prints
- Leonard Weber—his ubiquitous townscapes
- Melissa Preston, Honey Hill Llamas—sweet llamas, yarn, and honey
- Michael & Maureen Banner—silversmiths
- Nicole Campanale—sophisticated handmade bow ties
- Michael Erkkinen—timber framer
- Kit Patten—nifty artist and sculptor
- Phil and Sue Knoll—a couple of fantastic artists
- Roger Tryon—sweet Berkshire maple products
- Susan Sellew/Rawson Brook Farm—famous goat cheese
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From the Meetinghouse
Mindful Breathing with Thich Nhat Hahn

Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hahn is well known for his way of mindful breathing. When training others, he suggests that we use our inhale to set the timing for a regular pattern, and that we time our exhale to be a bit longer. Perhaps start with inhale one-two-three; exhale one-two-three-four-five.

Why? He didn't say specifically at the September conference in Boston (see last month's *Monterey News*), but I wonder if it's this: Breathing in, I receive. Breathing out, I give. Breathing in, I receive. Breathing out, I give to you. Breathing in, I receive. Breathing out, I give to the world.

One-two-three, one-two-three-four-five: a bit more giving than taking. In a word: *generosity*.

Or perhaps, this: Breathing in, I hold on. Breathing out, I let go. In a word: *flexibility*.

Breathing in, I smile. Breathing out, I speak. Both are for both of us. But nowhere is my breathing only for you or only for me. Breathing in, I. Breathing out, you. Can't have one without the other. In a word: *relationship*.

In-spiration with Thich Nhat Hahn in Boston Public Garden, September. (Photo by Mary Kate Jordan)

And what about the breathing itself in that equation? Is it just a physical act focused on nasal passages, lungs, and diaphragm? Even on that simply physical level, the contents of every breath we take in become a part of us, and every breath we release gives a part of our lived experience back to the world. One species' carbon dioxide is another's oxygen. In a word: *community*.

And, in a larger sense, is breathing also a way to describe the way we live? Is it also our shared experience of me, the writer, in-spired to exhale words that you the reader, are in-spired to take time to read?

It's timely, now that it is November, to let you know I am grateful for you, dear readers. Which also means grateful for you, dear *Monterey News* editor, writers, illustrators, advertisers, donors: all who make this publication what it is. And not only the people, but also the substances and processes involved: the trees and ink, or electronic systems and pixels, that make up the paper in your hands or on your screen. You are all present in the cornucopia of gratitude on my table this month. You are all present as I remember what happens when I sit at a table, or stand under the trees, just breathing.

—Mary Kate Jordan

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The Turning

Trees stretch
Leaves fall
Squirrels hover
Geese call

Wind whirls
Leaves tossed
Ground hardens
With the first frost

Ferns fold
Brooks freeze
Snow covers
Bare trees

Stark chill
Time creeps
Days darken
and the bear sleeps

—Ed Schur

wasn't it

wasn't it this morning when i said 'i do,'
and not a century, by half, ago?
when head to head in bed i slept by you
inventing what as yet i could not know

wasn't it this afternoon when they appeared?
those precious two with question marks for eyes.
with doubts of how, then and now, they should be reared,
we let them go but did not break the ties.

and yes, it was this evening when i could not find
the item in my hand from just before.
but when you say you love me gray, i do not mind
the things i can't do much of any more.

so sit by me ere speech dissolves to babble
and let us play another game of scrabble

—myrna wener rosen, '13

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The Apple of My Eye

This is apple storage time. Last year we had a year off from the cannery, cider press, and drying rack. The trees bloomed early, thanks to that heat we had in March, and when the cold came back late in the month, the 2012 crop was nipped in the bud, throughout the Northeast. That fall we kept a lookout for any trees that might have sat in a warm pocket in late March, or a cool one earlier in the month. There were a few. We got some "wild apples" that year, but not enough to store.

Apples in these parts may look wild and native in the woods, but like most of us they all came from somewhere else. With apples, it was the mountains of Central Asia. Scientists decoded the genome of apples in 2010 and tracked down their wild ancestor, *Malus sieversii*, thriving still in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and in China in Xinjiang.

We do have an indigenous wild apple in North America, the crabapple, and modern apples have been crossed with it. Right here on East Hupi Road, Monterey, we also have the hawthorn with its lovely white blossoms in spring, handsome red fruits in the fall, and its dangerous long thorns year 'round. The little fruits are called "haw apples" by some, which raises the matter of names.

Back in earlier times the word *apple* was used generously to include all sorts of fruit, and nuts. In the Song of Solomon apples are invoked, but who knows what the author had in mind? "Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples: for I am sick of love." (2:4–5). Whatever comfort came of apples in biblical times, these fruits led to trouble for Adam and Eve, namely temptation and typical human weakness followed by exile. More recent writers tell us that the apple as we know it today was not to be found in the Middle East in those times. Some say the confusion comes from the Latin word for apple, *malum*, which is also the word for an evil. There may have been different pronunciations, but if we are speaking of the famous tree of knowledge in the Garden of Eden, that was actually the tree of knowledge of good and evil, or *bonum et malum.* You could shorten this to the Tree of Good and Apple. Still, we don't know what it was they ate back then, only that they had been told not to.

Mark Twain wrote in *Pudd'nhead Wilson* (1894) that Adam only wanted the apple because it was forbidden, not because he liked apples, and Robert Browning's poem "A Woman's Last Word" (1855) advises, "Where the apple reddens / Never pry — / Lest we lose our Eden / Eve and I."

Still, we love apples and make them stand for all things good. Good health, good teeth, and America, our home. We link them with motherhood, which has got to be good. Adam and Eve may have been cast out, but thanks to mothers here we all are, right? And this year we are making applesauce and looking for cold storage for those carefully picked bruise-free keepers.

On our farm the apples were either planted or grafted by us, forty years back when we set up our tipi and made a little clearing in the woods. We needed sun for a garden, so we took down trees, but there were wild apples in there and we left them. We were given some good twigs by a neighbor on Sandisfield Road and whittled them onto the wild stock. Now we have September Stripes, Pound Sweets, and Kings doing fine on the wild rootstock. At the top of the garden we made over two wild trees with scions (twigs) from the Worcester Horticultural Society and got wonderful Macintoshes that make the best apples I ever ate.

We put in an orchard, too, with Snow ("Fameuse"), Westfield Seek No Further, Golden Russets, Northern Spies, and lots more. This year, the apples have been dropping for weeks and we have more jars of applesauce in the cellar than I ever thought I was born to be putting by. That is, I am ready to quit in the cannery. For drying, every day I slice up a bucketful and spread them on

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Larry Klein's Dream Plane

Monterey is a town with many stories. Here's one, in Larry Klein's own words:

"I started construction of my dream airplane seven years ago in my garage. Lots of sweat and toil finally culminated in getting the airplane completed in May to the point (top photo) that required my repositioning it to my hangar at Westfield-Barnes Airport. The middle photos shows the plane exiting my garage and being loaded on a transporter. Before leaving Monterey, we made a short stop in front of the General Store to allow the Monterey Coffee Club members to witness the fact that I have endured and am nearing first flight. The bottom photo shows the plane in front of my hangar at the airport."

Larry has promised to send the *News* photos of his first flight.

Photos courtesy Larry Klein

racks up over our Glenwood cookstove. These store easily in big gallon jars in the cellar, concentrated sweet and tart, just what we love.

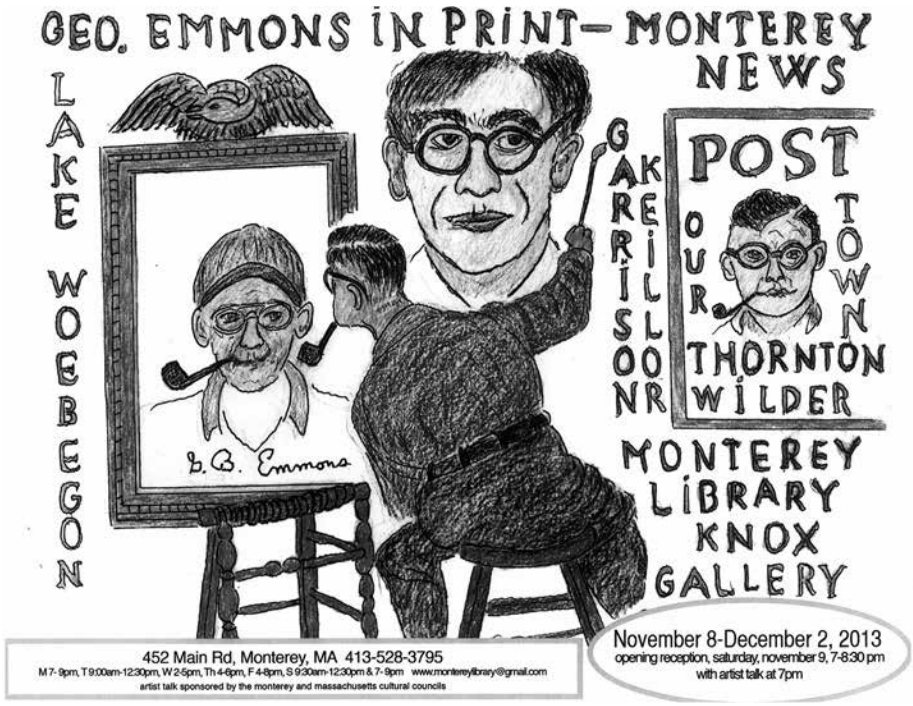
We are not the only ones stashing apples here. Our dog brings them down to the house. Some are left on the door stone, some nearby. We have to watch our step that we don't twist an ankle on one of these. Could be a touch of evil there if you don't look where you are going. I guess you could say that of anything. Maybe there is advice for Adam and Eve in this.

I looked up *apple* in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations and was richly rewarded, as always. I found the Greek poet Sappho cited in her "Fragment 116," and it reminded me of a song we learned in fifth grade music class: "The higher up the cherry tree, the riper grows the cherry . . ." When I came home singing this, my mother brightened up. "That's Sappho!" she said. Bartlett's quotes Sappho: "As an apple reddens on the high bough; high atop the highest bough the apple pickers passed it by—no, not passed it by, but they could not reach it."

Ah, apple, cherry, some kind of fruit or nut, right? Whether you are a woman six hundred years BCE on an island off Greece, a biblical couple in a lovely garden, a dog on Hupi Road, or me in my kitchen, you love the apple, that original apple of your eye.

—Bonner J. McAllester

Art in Print in Monterey News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opening reception, saturday, november 9, 7-8:30 pm
with artist talk at 7pm

The Monterey Library Knox Gallery art exhibit from November 8 thru December 2 will feature the best of my nearly two hundred *Monterey News* articles and illustrations! The main theme of my art show *In Print* is to express the gratitude we share for the *Monterey News* as an outstanding publication of town news. Each month's issue reports events and activities and is also a vehicle of expression in writing, poetry, photography, and illustration for contributors. I am also thankful to associate with the Monterey Library and grateful to the Monterey and Massachusetts Cultural Council for this opportunity.

Before retiring in Monterey in 1995, after forty-two years in textile sales in New York City, my weekend hobby developed as a creative nonfiction writer and illustrator with The Acorn Press in Ridgefield Connecticut. However, the philanthropic venture to follow might have ended except for finding the *Monterey News*, where I followed the lead and dedicated example of fellow contributors, particularly David and Bonner McAllester, as well as Melissa Hamilton. Gradually, my lifelong aspiration has come together with the collection in my first show.

Leonard Weber very kindly told me that my illustrations tell a story, while my stories paint a mental picture. The same Berkshire-mountains-sunlight aura of creativity rises and falls on his Hayloft Gallery as on the Norman Rockwell Art Studio in Stockbridge. However, we both walk in the monumental shadow of Norman's productive discipline, which produced 322 consecutive covers of the *Saturday Evening Post*. We also stand in awe at the Rockwell Museum as a hallmark of Americana illustration! Each masterpiece tells Rockwell's meaningful story. His genius was not recognized and acknowledged in a modernistic art world because he was paid for his work and was not a starving artist.

Wayne Burkhart tells me that he once wrote a regular column for the *Monterey News* entitled "Our Town." From my exposure to literature professor Thornton Wilder in English class at Harvard I also draw an analogy between Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, and Monterey, Massachusetts. Wilder dramatized simple yet meaningful lives that demonstrate the value of old-fashioned living. He believed that the lives of all people are meaningful and contribute to an appreciation of life. The dramatization of this theme in the play *Our Town* won him the 1938 Pulitzer Prize.

Today our best living storyteller of country values is probably Garrison Keillor in *Prairie Home Companion*. He believes that nothing human is beneath a writer's attention, and he shows that humanity taking shape in his narratives of Lake Wobegon, a small fictional town

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in Minnesota where "all the women are strong, all the men are good looking, and all children are above average." Parallel observations might describe Monterey, where the Konkapot flowing out of Lake Garfield is a river in time. Its channel defines the old golf course, a Grange that became Town Hall, the Post Office. the General Store, and then the Library, looking up the road at a one-room schoolhouse. Over the dam behind the Library, the river turns the hands of the clock back to the age of waterpower at old mill sites. Farther downstream, before the Dianne's Trail bridge, it flows on in time to join Rawson Brook coming from the goat farm and Gould Farm, then farther downstream to the Hatchery. The journey through River City relates to people and places depicted in the artworks of my show

All this is dramatized while, as in a Wilder play, both past and present actors are still on stage before the curtain goes down. Now, echoing Keillor's words in his signature conclusion to all his narratives, it is time to move on. And, to end my article, we might paint a Norman Rockwell mental picture of water under the bridge as an artistic reflection of a day gone by.

—George B. Emmons

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SELL * BUY * RENT

The Need for Mentoring in the Commonwealth

by Rep. William "Smitty" Pignatelli

With schools across the Commonwealth fully back into the swing of things, this is a perfect opportunity to turn our attention to the education system and think of what we can be doing to strengthen Massachusetts schools and remain a leader in education. While statewide, students here in Massachusetts outperform their peers, there is a still a great deal of work that needs to be done to ensure that all the youth across the Commonwealth have the support they need to excel in school. Structured, quality mentoring programs are an important step, as they compliment classroom work by providing additional emotional and educational support.

Mentoring programs help school systems achieve many of their strategic priorities. Attendance rates increase when students are more engaged in school. Mentoring gives students a reason to go to school. Mentoring has been shown to improve literacy. Ability to read at grade level is a key indicator of future success. By helping ensure that students are proficient in reading, mentoring decrease the likelihood that students will drop out, increasing the graduation rate. Mentoring improves student confidence, which has a direct effect on quality of class work and academic performance. Mentoring even extends beyond graduation into post–high school options. Many of the children involved do not have parents or other figures in their life who can speak to them knowledgably about possible future paths.

Many types of programs are currently offered in Massachusetts. Matches can meet in school or at community centers, or they can participate in community activities. They can meet during the school day, afterward, or on weekends. Programs also vary in their focus to serve certain needs. Some emphasize academics, while others focus solely on social and emotional support. These are great programs; the problem is that they are simply not able to serve enough children. A great example of a mentoring program that supports the Berkshires is the Railroad Street Youth Project in Great Barrington.

However, there are still currently more than 2,800 youths waiting for mentors across the Commonwealth. In the Fourth Berkshire District, there are 306 children ages 5–17 who are living in single parent households in poverty, and currently only 11 are being served by a mentoring program. This is only 3.6 percent of need being met. You can help by supporting a mentoring organization in your area. To find a mentoring opportunity near you, search for mentoring opportunities on the Mass Mentoring Partnership website at www.massmentors.org or by calling 413-262-1227.

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"Garden Gustation"

What's Cooking from Monterey Gardens & Farms

Turkey Time and Bounce Berries

November! The leaves are nearly all down, although the remaining leaves of the beech and oaks are just beautiful. Our garden is slowly, and I mean slowly, getting put to bed for another year. There's no doubt that the garden is a lot of work, but the rewards are generally great. This past growing season was one of plenty, and in some ways I hate to see it go. As of late October, we were still picking our abundant raspberries (see photo), freezing them on trays, and then popping them into bags and back into the freezer, but here we are in the month of Thanksgiving. It's the time of year, and the only time of year, when fresh Massachusetts cranberries or *bounce berries* can be had.

Although we can't grow our own cranberries, I appreciate having them grown for us here in our own state. Cranberries are native to North America and are the state berry of Massachusetts. If you are lucky, you may find some local wild cranberries, but most Massachusetts cranberries are commercially grown in the southeastern part of the state in bogs. Fresh cranberries are available only in the fall months but freeze beautifully. Now is the time to stock up, and I certainly will be. One of the beauties of this fruit is that you can drop the purchased bag into the freezer and use it up at a later time. Although cranberry sauce is a tradition for many at Thanksgiving, there are many other ways to take advantage of this local berry's vibrant color, taste, and healthy attributes.

The cranberry is sometimes known as the bounce berry because of the way plump, healthy, ripe berries bounce. This bouncy characteristic is used to help sort out the bruised, soft or rotten berries.

Last fall I found a book in a pile of my mother's old cookbooks called *Better Than Store Bought*, by Helen Witty and Elizabeth Schneider Colchie. It was printed in 1979. I love reading books of this ilk. Make it from scratch, don't buy it, if you can. I found a recipe for making cranberry juice and then using the pulp to make a coarse-textured cranberry sauce. I changed it a bit to use the standard 12-oz. bag of cranberries. Have a few extra raspberries in the freezer too? Add them to the mix and make your own cranraspberry juice! The bounce berries can be used for more than just Turkey Time!

Stephen Moore

Cranberry Juice

1 12 oz. bag of cranberries
4 cups of water
Pinch of salt
Optional: 2 or 3 orange slices or 1 cup raspberries (fresh or frozen)
½ cup sugar; maybe start with ¼ cup and add more to your taste

1. Wash the berries and put into a saucepan with the water, orange slices (or raspberries), and the salt. Cook over moderate heat until all berries pop, about 10 minutes.

2. Turn the berries, optional orange slices/raspberries, and liquid into a cheesecloth lined sieve. Strain the juice, without pressing, and reserve the berry and orange pulp to make Home-Style Cranberry Sauce.

3. Return the juice to the pot with the sugar and boil 2–3 minutes. Cool and chill.

4. This juice can be canned to have at the ready. Ladle hot juice into clean quart or pint canning jars and process for 10 minutes in a hot-water bath. Makes about 4 cups.

Home-Style Cranberry Sauce

Cooked cranberry and orange pulp remaining from Cranberry Juice above
¾ cup sugar
½ cup cranberry juice (from above

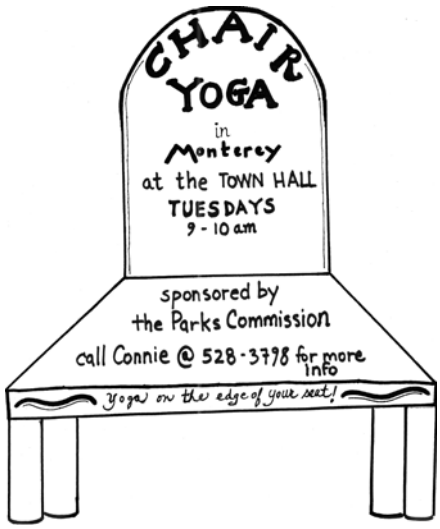
1. Force the cranberry and orange pulp through the medium disc of a food mill into a saucepan. (I think the food processor would work fine too.)

2. Add the sugar and cranberry juice and boil for 30 seconds. Pour into a bowl or jar and press a sheet of plastic onto the surface of the sauce to prevent a skin from forming.

3. Refrigerate. The sauce will keep for several weeks.

Happy Turkey Time!

—Wendy G. Jensen
wendygj@gmail.com



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October Wildlife Report with Dragonfly Love

Late in September, Suzanne Sawyer wrote to say they had a very large pileated woodpecker in an old maple tree at their place. About this time, Michael and Maureen Banner took some good photos of many small garter snakes that were living under a cement block in the garden shed. The Banners gently moved them to the woods.

Also in late September, Margery and Cos Spagnoletti saw a bald eagle flying over the Monterey transfer station, though more recently Sue Protheroe writes that as of November 2 the bald eagles are still at Lake Buel, also that the migrating warblers are now coming through.

Speaking of visitors, the Banners had at least two wood ducks on their pond every day for a week and then, on October 26, there were nine of them. Cora Baker's pond had four wood ducks about this same time.

Earlier in the month, the Spagnolettis saw a turkey vulture enjoying a meal beside Blue Hill Road. But Will Marsh, who has been looking for turkey vultures since returning home from a trip late in the month, feels they must now have left this area. He did see them in North Carolina, where he was visiting.

The Spagnolettis also saw a very young bear cub near Sandisfield Road on October 4, and Steve Snyder reports two seen the last week of October, on Gould Road. Steve says there have been many turkeys and deer around Gould Farm, and a bald eagle often seen throughout the summer. There have been milk snakes and garter snakes, many of which were very small, like the ones at the Banners' house, and Steve has found this to be a time of "more ticks than I ever remember."

Stephanie Grotz

Maureen Banner

Stephanie's dragonflies, Banners' snakes

Mary Kate Jordan told of a moose she saw near Eagleton School about October 15, right after some of us read that sad account of the moose killed by a car in Lee. Ted Warner also saw a moose near Eagleton, but it was earlier in the month, October 4. This one was a young bull, quite black, with antlers. He was "about the size of a racehorse," Ted said, and stood by the road for a few seconds as other cars stopped to look.

Some of us have seen a few bats this past month, and through the summer. As Steve Snyder put it, though there are so few, at least they "let me hope they'll return some day."

On October 26, about 4:00 p.m. John Farrell and Chuck Pierce stopped down along Barnum Flats to watch a big coyote in Wayne Burkhart's pasture where the beef cattle graze. Chuck reports that the cattle paid no attention to the coyote, which "trotted off after about five minutes."

In the middle of the month, Stephanie Grotz sent a photo of two red dragonflies, one in front and one behind but hooked up head to tail. I got out my book and found they are probably Ruby Meadowhawks, though they could be Saffron-winged Meadowhawks. The book says these are nearly indistinguishable. They are in their "tandem" position. Mating will come next, with wonderful contortionism, probably in midair, resulting in the "wheel position," which is head-to-tail-to-head-to-tail. No doubt we can find all the details in the Dragonfly Kama Sutra.

Besides all this, in mid-October there was a puffin swimming in the Bay of Fundy as I crossed from St. John, New Brunswick, over to Nova Scotia on the ferry, the *Princess of Arcadia*.

Thanks for your notes and sightings.

—Bonner McAllester
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A Matter Reconsidered: A 1970 Journey to the USSR, Part 2

The "Matter Reconsidered" exhibit at the Knox Gallery in the summer included a collage by Libby Wolf of her impressions of her trip. Part 1 appeared in the August issue.

After traveling through the Ukraine where the visual landscape was a vast flatland of dreary monotony and the social landscape was dark with distrust and suspicion, the mighty, wild rise and fall of the Caucasus Mountains seemed to catapult us into a vibrant Georgian state, a state indeed existing in face of the USSR, not for a minute within it.

On the road into Tbilisi, we at first succumbed to the frequent groups of men along the roadside inviting us to imbibe with them the sparking Georgian wine that was one grape leaf short of champagne. They were most curious about our tiny foreign car (a Riley 1300), which was for many of them their first sighting of a European vehicle. However, they had little handle on conversation that went past these mechanical surprises, seeming not even to know where to begin that conversation. But Georgia? Emphatically, yes! Georgia was Georgia, not just one among all the United Soviet Socialist Republics, and the Georgians were proud and ebullient. Drink up and drink again! At a certain point we had to avoid these impromptu liquid picnics if we were ever to arrive in Tbilisi.

Coming into the city, we were finally seeing what we had sought . . .the old world of this region, old buildings and signs of enduring ethnic culture. Three- and four-story houses with multilevel ornate verandahs built into precipitous rocky cliffs, with winding cobble streets, ancient stone churches, and market squares. People everywhere were asking us questions, but questions with telling simplicity, "Is the bread better here or in America?" We attempted to answer with matching simplicity but perhaps provoking just a wee bit—"The bread is better here, but it is easier to get meat in the USA"—to see where the conversation might go. But the gulf of knowledge frequently proved hard to breach.

While in Tbilisi, we decided to drive to Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, and back to Tbilisi in one day, given that Yerevan was not on our official Intourist list. However, road maps and road signs were nonexistent, so it took several days of exploring roads leading out of Tbilisi at 4 a.m. before finding a road that seemed to continue south. We made it to Yerevan around lunchtime, and given that we were there illegally, stayed long enough only to see a stunningly beautiful city built with pink marble.

The traffic on all roads we traveled consisted mainly of heavy-duty trucks, with only very infrequent private cars. There was only one model/make of car, the Russian Volga, which looked rather like a Pontiac of the 1950s. Road construction appeared to entail the laying of a bed of medium-sized rocks, which were simply crushed by the heavy truck traffic until they became small rocks; at some point they might then be further crushed by steamrollers. On the drive back from Yerevan, which reached well into the night, we hit one of the medium-sized rocks lying in the middle of the road. This sprang a leak in our oil sump, and we lost oil rapidly until torrential rain produced enough mud to block the hole. The gods were with us that night, and we just made it back to Tbilisi where our trusty steed gave out once and for all.

Next morning we concocted some implausible excuse for the immobile state of the car and got towed to a huge garage. This proved to be an unexpected highlight of the trip. The many mechanics refused to speak Russian with my friend, claiming only to speak a very local language. They were, however, fascinated with our tiny car, and would have been only too happy to strip it completely. The car was put on a jack, our gestures indicating the hole in the sump. Their gestures indicated the repair could simply be made by welding over the hole. This is good welding practice, in general. However, after many gestures on our part we still failed to convey the function of the sump in draining and replacing clean oil. We resorted to hysterics as they prepared to weld our sump permanently closed. One more mechanic was miraculously produced, and suddenly we were operating in French, with all the necessary mechanical explanations. It turned out that Russian cars do not have oil sumps. Who knows how that worked?!

Many hours later, the sump was repaired, and one of the mechanics gestured for me to get into the passenger seat. I was surprised to find that the mechanic himself had gotten into the driver's seat in the few seconds it took me to get in, and even more

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surprised when he sped out of the garage and off down the road at high speed, away from Tbilisi and into the hills. What was this? Many smiles later, he pulled into a small village and proudly produced me for the village to see! Not, perhaps, kidnapped? More of just a momentary trophy? My hair was auburn, and my skin freckled. The villagers simply wanted to touch those freckles and feel the hair, gently, curiously. My trophy master then indicated we would return to the garage.

But then, there it was, the second rock in the middle of the road. This time, the hole was in the tire. We limped on the rim of the wheel back to the garage to be greeted by cheering mechanics and my fraught friend, who had no idea what had happened to me. And so we began again . . . this time, the mechanics could not get the tire off the wheel. I no longer remember why, but remember only their repeated failed attempts were trumped finally by simply driving over the wheel with another car. "Aha! No wonder the tire doesn't work! It has no inner tube!" We had left London with five good tires. We had already put a hole in one, so now we had only three functional tires and no way to replace the two damaged ones. No problem, the mechanics gestured. They could fix it, they gestured. We trembled, but we were full out of options. They vulcanized a rubber patch over the hole, giving us a thump for each and every wheel rotation between Tbilisi and London.

Next stop, Baku, on the Caspian Sea. We had not planned this in our itinerary, but by now Intourist, we suspected, was very sick of us and our tenacious ways—we can wait for the visa, no problem; yes, we will wait, yes we can stay here, Tbilisi being such a wonderful, exciting place; we are happy to wait—and so we got permission. Baku was an oil city, and our Intourist guide did everything with us bar sleep in our room. We wanted to see the old city (now a world heritage site), but we were shown the oilrigs. We were given every possible statistic on the oilrigs. We begged to see the old city, but there was no time because we had to see more oilrigs. We had been told that tourists did not go to Baku due to security issues of an oil city. Were they now punishing us for insistence on going? We were force-fed oil statistics. We never did see the old city. However, our very kind Intourist guide offered to take us to the movies. We watched Jack Lemon and Shirley MacLaine in "Kvartira," or, in English, "The Apartment," dubbed in Russian. The audience seemed more interested in watching us. They had absolutely no idea that the film they were watching was not newly released and represented New York of an earlier era.

To be continued . . .

—Libby Wolf

P.O. Box 9, 01245

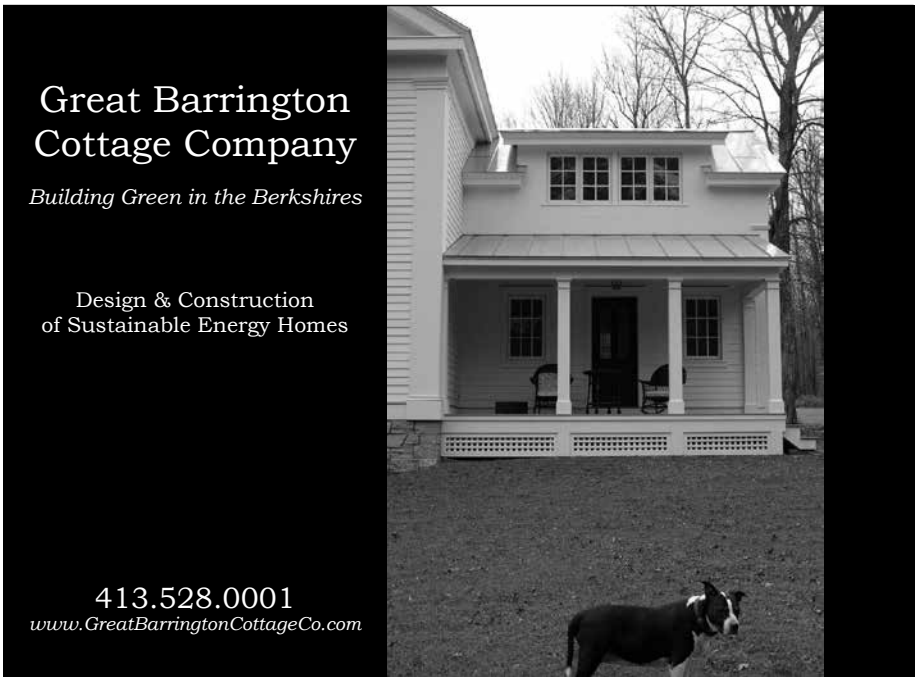
Thanks to Our Firemen!

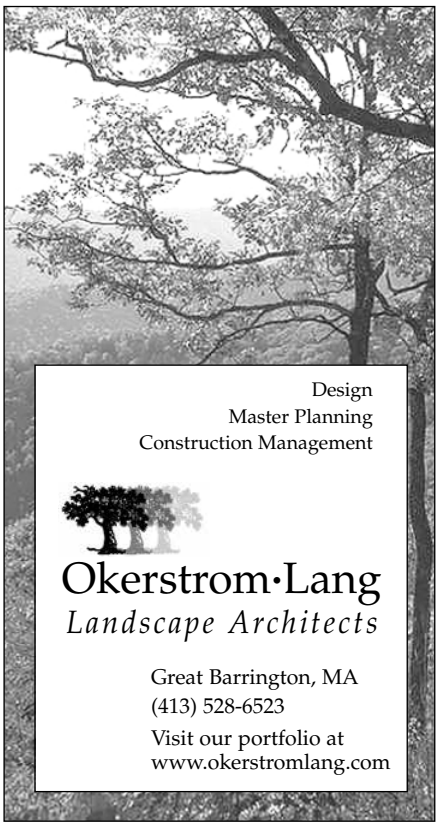
To the Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful volunteer fire department. On Thursday, October 24 my husband and I had a very harrowing experience when our Franklin stove had a dangerous incident, which could have been devastating. After calling 911, Mike, our wonderful local policeman, was there within a minute, preceded by John Makuc and followed by several firemen who managed to get everything under control and made sure there was nothing hidden to cause more damage before they left. Unfortunately it was right in the middle of the Red Sox Game!!! Sorry.

All too often we all take our wonderful volunteer neighbors for granted except in a time of crisis. Thursday was our time of crisis and there they were, ready and willing to do their job even at risk to their own safety. Thank you, Monterey Fire Department, and Police Department—we are surely blessed to have you.

—Ann & Alfred Vetter,
Tyringham Road





Remembering Dean Amidon

On October 9 Dean Amidon died at the age of 89 after 75 years of companionship with Fran, 69 years of marriage and family, and 60 years in Monterey. You can read Dean's full obituary (his distinguished career with the Massachusetts Department of Public Works including a stint as the Commissioner of the Mass. DPW) by googling "Dean Amidon Obituary"; here we will be focusing on Dean's Monterey adventures.

In the early 1950s Art Hebert (Bobby Hebert's father) had built a new house on Sandisfield Road, then mostly dirt. Dean and Fran, then living in Great Barrington, were looking for a bigger home for their growing family (then three boys: Skip, Peter, and Phillip) and purchased the house. Soon they were part and parcel of the fabric of Monterey life. Fran raised four boys (fourth son, Jay, came in the Monterey days), taught preschool in the family home basement, and, over the years, taught swimming to all of Monterey and was the unofficial barber for many town children.

Dean coaching Little League (that's Jay catching). (Photos courtesy Amidon family)

Meanwhile, Dean continued his full-time career with the Mass DPW, took his four boys on various adventures, joined Fran in an active social life with Monterey and Great Barrington friends, and got deeply involved in Town of Monterey life: he served on the Planning Board, the Town Republican Committee, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and as Moderator for Town Meetings. He was even a Monterey Policeman for a short time.

When oldest son Skippy was of age, Dean joined Harold Green to found and coach the Monterey Little League, which eventually all four of the Amidon boys joined. Dean also involved all four boys in his work with the Monterey Volunteer Fire Department. Dad's rule was that whoever could be in the car with shoes on by the time he drove away could go to the fire; there was quite a scrambling whenever we heard the siren, barely audible from our house. We often helped the men in the

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firefighting. When I left to fly off to college in September, 1967, Mom had to drive me first to Hupi Road, where I walked into a burning house to give Dad, water hose in hand, a goodbye hug.

Dean, a former Worcester Tech football quarterback, was always athletic and physically active. Our family joined others in skating parties on our pond and on Lake Garfield. We skied around Monterey and, later, at Butternut. We spent much of the summer swimming at Lake Garfield and a week each summer at the ocean in York, Maine. Dean and the boys took part in the weekly Sunday afternoon softball games at the Monterey Park (now Greene Park) which alternated between teams made up of married versus singles and summer folk versus year rounders. The games traditionally ended only when it was too dark to see the ball. Dean and Fran also took the boys skiing and sledding on various hills around town before the days of ski tows or lifts. Later Dean and Fran were both regular skiers every winter at Butternut into their late 70s.

Every deer season Dean's two brothers, Buddy and David, came to the house and joined Dean for a week of hunting, a week Fran affectionately called "Hell Week." Also every year Dean joined his pals Bill Mielke, Alan Macy, Fred Spiker (then pastor of Great Barrington Congregational Church), and Bob Elliot (DPW colleague) for a week of hunting in Vermont, from which Dean came back unshaven, unkempt, and gloriously relaxed and happy.

The Dean and Fran Amidon home was always the go-to place for many cousins when we were growing up, and later for many extended grandchildren stays after we left home.

After Dean and Fran purchased their cottage on Lake Garfield (corner of Tyringham and Sylvan Roads) from Richard Lankenau in the 1970s they spent much of their summers right on the lake, and added waterskiing (and lots more swimming) to their list of sports. Dean was the perfect choice for Harbormaster of Lake Garfield. Fran and Dean became a familiar sight sitting outside on their cottage porch. How many of you reading this have stopped to fill a jug from the Amidon cottage outdoor spring-water pipe, or stopped for a brief conversation from your car window, or just waved as you drove by?

In 1991 Dean helped organize and fundraise to create a memorial park for Monterey veterans on the corner of Route 23 and Blue Hill Road. For twenty years Dean, in addition to acting as Master of Ceremony for the Monterey Memorial Day Parade, organized and MC'd an earlier service at the Monterey Veterans Memorial Park. You can see a YouTube of a tribute to Dean from the Town of Monterey and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the 2012 Monterey Veterans Memorial Park service by googling "Dean Amidon Monterey Veterans Memorial."

And finally, the Monterey Coffee Club. I often tell friends how grateful I am that in the last years of Dad's life he had the Coffee Club: a daily morning gathering of coffee and wide-ranging conversation with other local folks in the Monterey Church basement. Fran and Dean were regulars, walking the mile from home to the Coffee Club and the mile back. This simple gathering added uncountable richness to Dean's final years.

Dean (Dad) was a faithful and loving servant to Monterey. And, on behalf of Mom and my brothers, I say thank you, Monterey, for all you did for Dad.

—Peter Amidon, Brattleboro, Vermont

State Rep. Smitty Pignatelli honoring host Bill Brockman (2nd from left), founding director of the Bidwell House Museum, for Bill's dedication to the Museum and to Berkshire history, at the "Twenties in the Berkshires" Garden Party in August. Looking on are (from left) Katherine Roberts, Rob Hoogs, Paula Moats, and Chapin Fish. (Photo by Barbara Palmer)

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Recent Acquisitions at Monterey Library

Below is a sample of recent new arrivals in the Monterey Library. Come in and browse!

These books and movies are newly released and in high demand by all users of CWMARS. You can place a hold on them through your CWMARS account, or you can call the library (528-3795) or come by during open hours.

DVD

The Way, Way Back (PG-13)
Before Midnight (R)
I Give It a Year (R)
Monster's University (G)
Far Out Isn't Far Enough: The Tomi Ungerer Story (DOC)

Adult Fiction

The Cartographer of No Man's Land, P. S. Duffy
Accused: A Rosato & Associates Novel, Lisa Scottoline
Red Sky in Morning, Paul Lynch
The Minor Adjustment Beauty Salon, Alexander McCall Smith

Adult Nonfiction

The Men Who United the States, Simon Winchester
Writing on the Wall: Social Media, The First Two Thousand Years, Tom Standage
How Architecture Works: A Humanist's Toolkit, Witold Rybczynski
The Most of Nora Ephron, Nora Ephron
David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants, Malcom Gladwell
Candy: A Century of Panic and Pleasure, Samira Kawash
Pasta Modern: New & Inspired Recipes from Italy, Francine Segan

Audio Books

Accused, Lisa Scottoline
Critical Mass, Sara Paretsky
Loss of Innocence, Richard North Patterson

Young Adults

Curtsies & Conspiracies, Gail Carriger

Maynard Forbes

The Monterey Fire Department in a recent practice on the HUME property.

Contributors

Many thanks to the following folks for their recent contributions. The *News* staff and Board of Directors are very grateful for your continuing support of our community newspaper.

Bebe Bernstein, in memory of
Dr. Owen Bernstein
David Myers & Susan Cooper
Nancy Kalodner
Dyane Moore & Stephen Boyd
Valerie Salerno
Brenda Pace
Marie B. Leuchs
Alyssa Gelbard

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Calendar

Every Monday except holidays: Select Board meeting, Town Hall, 9 a.m.

Through mid-December: Exhibition of Joe Baker'srecent paintings. Sandisfield Arts Center. For hours or to make appointment, call Joe, 413-528-9385. See p. 11.

Tuesdays in November: Chair Yoga with Connie Wilson, 9–10 a.m., Monterey Town Hall. Free, sponsored by Monterey Park Commission.

Thursday, November 7: Free Blood Pressure Clinic, 2–3 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room.

Saturday, November 9: Opening reception for *George Emmons: In Print at the Monterey News*, 7–8:30 p.m., artist's talk at 7 p.m., Knox Gallery, Monterey Library. Exhibit runs to December 2. See p. 9.

Monday, November 11: Veterans Day, Town Hall, Library closed. Veterans Day Observance beginning at 10:45 a.m., Monterey Church.

Saturday, November 16: Lenox Contradance, Live music by the Great Bear Duo, calling by Jon Greene, 8–11:30 p.m. (new dancers come at 8), Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St., www.lenoxcontradance.org, 413-528-4007.

Monday, November 18: Ceremony honoring Michael Ordyna for heroism, 10:30 a.m., Town Hall. See p. 4.

Wednesday, November 20: Community Potluck Dinner, 6 p.m., Monterey Meetinghouse Fellowship Hall. Larry Silk will show his Holocaust documentary *One Survivor Remembers*. Everyone welcome; see p. 5.

Jordan Mielke, a second grader at Muddy Brook Elementary School, put together this homage to his grandfather and all veterans for Veterans Day.

Saturday, November 23: Deadline for submitting "Intent to Enter" forms to participate in winter community group exhibit, *In the Details*, at the Knox Gallery, Monterey Library. See p. 9.

Monday, November 25: Adult book group will discuss *Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan, 7:30 p.m., Monterey Library. Newcomers welcome.

Saturday, November 30: Volunteers needed to help set up Monterey ice-skating rink, 9:30 a.m., Monterey Firehouse pavilion. Refreshments provided.

Friday, December 6:

Special Town Meeting, 7 p.m., Monterey Firehouse. See pp. 4, 5.

Opening reception for *In the Details*, community group art exhibit, 6–7:30 p.m., Knox Gallery, Monterey Library. See p. 9.

Saturday, December 7: Fifth Annual Monterey Makers Studio Tour of artists' and artisans' studios in Monterey, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. See p. 13.

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The Observer

September 26 – October 25

High temp. (10/2)	73º
Low temp. (10/24)	28°
Avg. high temp.	62.3°
Avg. low temp.	41.1°
Avg. temp.	51.7°
Total rainfall	1.32 in.

Rainfall occurred on 6 days.

Useful Town Phone Numbers

Assessor's Office: 528-1443 x115
(for questions about your assessment or abatements)
Tax Collector's Office: 528-1443 x117
(for questions about your tax bill)
Town Clerk: 528-1443 x113
(for marriage licenses, death & birth certificates, census, dog licenses)
Building Department: 528-1443 x118
Police Department (non-emergency): 528-1443 x116
Fire Department (non-emergency): 528-3136
Highway Department: 528-1734
Executive Secretary: 528-1443 x111
(for Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and other misc. questions)
Library: 528-3795
Post Office: 528-4670

Transfer Station Winter Hours

Sunday	10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.

MONTEREY LIBRARY

Note extended Tuesday hours!

Monday	7–9 p.m.
Tuesday	9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Wednesday	2–5 p.m.
Thursday	4–6 p.m.
Friday	4–8 p.m.
Saturday	9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
	7–9 p.m.

Phone 528-3795

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Contributions from local artists this month:
Pat Arnow, 11; Maureen Banner, 5, 7, 15;
George Emmons,18; Bonner McAllester, 16.

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